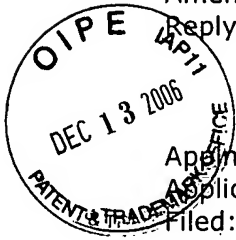


Appln. No.: 10/526,998
Amendment Dated December 11, 2006
Reply to Office Action of October 12, 2006

TJA-102US



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No: 10/526,998
Applicant: Francesc Xavier Hernando Fernandez
Filed: October 18, 2005
Title: IMAGE ACQUISITION UNIT WITH HEATING DEVICE FOR
MONITORING THE EXTERIOR OF A VEHICLE
TC/A.U.: 3742
Examiner: Vinod D. Patel
Confirmation No.: 7992
Docket No.: TJA-102US

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement stated in the Office Letter dated **October 12, 2006**.

The Examiner requires an election between:

- Species I: First embodiment as depicted in Fig. 1.
- Species II: Second embodiment as depicted in Fig. 2.
- Species III: Third embodiment as depicted in Fig. 3.
- Species IV: Fourth embodiment as depicted in Fig. 4.
- Species V: Fifth embodiment as depicted in Fig. 5.
- Species VI: Sixth embodiment as depicted in Fig. 6.
- Species VII: Seventh embodiment as depicted in Fig. 7.
- Species VIII: Eighth embodiment as depicted in Fig. 8.
- Species IX: Ninth embodiment as depicted in Fig. 9.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Restriction Requirement for the reasons set forth below.

Upon review, applicant believes that if at all, the invention identifies two species, specifically Species I depicted in Figures 1-8 and Species II depicted in Figure 9. As such, Applicant elects to prosecute Species I depicted in Figures 1-8. Applicant presently believes that Species I is directed to claims 28-61. Applicant also

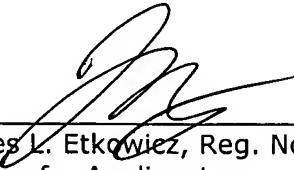
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acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 28 is generic. Accordingly, although withdrawn, claim 62 is not canceled for future rejoinder upon allowance of the generic claim.

Respectfully submitted,

RatnerPrestia

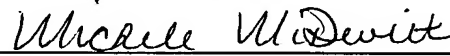


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JLE/mm
Dated: December 11, 2006
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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: December 11, 2006



Michele McDevitt